

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 /069 W

-----013295 301501Z /45

O 301410Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4728

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2879

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT ELECT'S CONCERN ABOUT CONTINUING

"DISINFORMATION" CAMPAIGN

1. EMBOFF MET MORING OF MAY 29 WITH ANTONIO GUZMAN, AT HIS REQUEST TELEPHONED TO EMBASSY THE PREVIOUS NIGHT, WHO WANTED TO DISCUSS TWO SUBJECTS WHICH IN HIS MIND APPEAR TO BE RELATED.

2. FIRST IS CONTINUED MANEUVERING OF NATIONA POLICE CHIEF MGEN RAFAEL NEIT NIVAR AND HIS POLITICAL/BUSINESS ASSOCIATES TO UNDERMINE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE THAT THE MAY 16 ELECTIONS WERE OPEN AND CLEAN AND NOT, AS NIVAR'S PROPAGANDISTS ARGUE, SOMEHOW RIGGED BY THE PRD. TOGETHER WITH ASSERTIONS BY PARTIDO REFORMISTA POLITICIANS THAT THEY INTEND TO CHALLENGE THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS AS CERTIFIED BY THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE), THE CAMPAIGN CLEARLY SEEMS TO HAVE GUZMAN WORRIED THAT THE BASIC GROUNDWORK IS BEING LAID FOR MILITARY ACTION LATER, AFTER GUZMAN
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TAKES OFFICE.

3. THE BASIC PURPOSE OF THIS EFFORT, GUZMAN SAID, IS TO CREATE DOUBT IN THE PUBLIC MIND THAT HE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN HONESTLY ELECTED. IF ENOUGH OF A CLOUD OVER HIS VICTORY AT THE POLLS CAN BE CREATED BY THE MULTI-LEVEL "DISINFORMATION" EFFORT OF VINCHO CASTILLO, RAFAEL BONILLA AYBAR AND OTHER DIEHARD REFORMISTAS,

THE STAGE COULD BE SET FOR A COUP WHEN THE GUZMAN ADMINISTRATION FACES A SERIOUS POLITICAL CRISIS, MANY OF WHICH ARE TO BE EXPECTED AS THE NEW GOVERNMENT TACKLES THE VERY TOUGH PROBLEMS IT WILL FACE.

4. GUZMAN SAID HE HAS REPORTS FROM THE REMOTE NORTHWEST OF THE COUNTRY, THE SO-CALLED LINEA NOROESTE, THAT LOCAL JCE OFFICIALS ARE BEING FORCED TO SIGN LETTERS FALSELY BUT FORMALLY STATING THAT "IRREGULARITIES" OCCURRED DURING THE MAY 16 VOTING AT THEIR PARTICULAR MESAS. THE AGENTS OF NEIT NIVAR IN THIS EFFORT ARE LGEN BEAUCHAMP JAVIER, SECRETARY OF THE ARMED FORCES AND AN OLD NIVAR ALLY THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN CENTRALLY INVOLVED IN THE EVENTS OF MAY 16-17, AND BGEN JAQUEZ OLIVERA, THE IRON-FISTED CACIQUE OF THE LINEA NOROESTE. THE NEXT STEP GUZMAN SAID HE EXPECTS IS THE CONFECTION OF FALSE "ACTAS," OR VOTE COUNT LISTS, TO SOW FURTHER DOUBT AND CONFUSION AND TO PROPAGATE THE IDEA THAT THE ELECTIONS WERE SPURIOUS AND NOT, AS THE PRD INSISTS, CLEAN, OPEN, HONEST AND FAIRLY WON.

5. THE SECOND BOTHERSOME THING ON GUZMAN'S MIND WAS THAT OLD PRD BOGEY -- THE SUPPOSED BUDDY-BUDDYISM BETWEEN US MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE MISSION HERE AND THE DOMINICAN MILITARY, AND THE WIDELY HELD NOTION THAT SOMEHOW "THE PENTAGON" (OR THE CIA, OR BOTH) OPERATE ON POLICY LINES OTHER THAN THOSE LAID DOWN BY THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN, DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO PREPARE THE DOMINICAN MILITARY MIND FOR ACTION
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AGAINST A "DISCREDITED" AND EVEN "ILLEGAL" GUZMAN ADMINISTRATION, AND THE SUPPOSEDLY FRATERNAL TIES BETWEEN THE MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, APPEAR TO ADD UP TO A REAL WORRY FOR GUZMAN, WHO WITH GOOD CAUSE DOES NOT TRUST MANY OF THE GENERALS HERE.

6. EMBOFF REITERATED ASSURANCES THAT DAO/MAAG MARCH TO THE SAME POLICY DIRECTIVES LAID DOWN IN WASHINGTON THAT GUIDE THE EMBASSY'S ACTIONS HERE, AND THAT HE PERSONALLY COULD ATTEST THAT MILITARY PERSONNEL ATTACHED TO THIS MISSION HAD SCRUPULOUSLY ADHERED TO THE POLICIES ENUNCIATED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE. AMBASSADOR YOST REINFORCED THESE ASSURANCES WITH MID-DAY TELEPHONE CALL T GUZMAN. THE PRESIDENT ELECT SEEMED TO BE GREATLY REASSURED BY THE QUICK REITERATION OF US POLICY OF FULL RESPECT FOR THE ELECTORAL PROCESSES HERE.

7. COMMENT. THE PRD'S DEEP MISTRUST OF MANY IN THE ARMED FORCES HAS CONDITIONED ITS LEADERS TO ALWAYS BELIEVE THE WORST ABOUT MILITARY INTENTIONS. WITH THE EVENTS OF MAY 16-17 FRESH IN THEIR MINDS, REPORTS OF PLOTS ARE IMMEDIATELY BELIEVED. THE CONTINUING BLACK PROPAGANDA, EVEN AFTER BALAGUER IMPLICITY CONCEDED HIS LOSS WITH HIS CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS TO GUZMAN AND MAJLUTA, RAISES THE QUESTION IN MANY MINDS, AND NOT JUST IN THE

PRD, OF ITS TRUE PURPOSE. AND GUZMAN'S EXPLANATION OF WHAT NEIT NIVAR AND COMPANY ACTUALLY ARE ABOUT MAKES AS MUCH SENSE AS ANY OTHER WE HAVE HEARD.

8. BY HIS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO GUZMAN, BALAGUER HIMSELF APPARENTLY RECOGNIZED PUBLICLY THE PRD HAS WON, EVEN IF SOME OF HIS FOLLOWERS REFUSE TO. YET THE PRD, EVER ON THE ALERT FOR TRAPS AND MANEUVERS TO ROB THEM OF THEIR VICTORY OR TO IMPUGN IT, ARE DISPOSED TO LOOK TO THEIR FOREIGN FRIENDS FOR MORAL SUPPORT WHENEVER THEY FEEL THREATENED. IN VIEW OF THE MANEUVERING STILL GOING ON BY DIE-HARD REFORMISTAS, ONE CAN HARDLY BLAME THEM.
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